

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

The amendments to this patent application are as follows.

A "Replacement Sheet" of drawings showing an amended FIG. 1 and adding a new FIG. 2 is being filed herewith.

The Specification has been amended on page 3 to cancel any references to the claims. Also page 3 of the Specification is being amended in order to provide a brief description of FIG. 1 and FIG. 2. Page 4 of the Specification is being amended to describe FIG. 1, while Page 5 of the Specification is being amended to describe FIG. 2.

The amendments to the claims are to cancel claim 33. Because claim 33 has been cancelled, the drawings are not being amended to illustrate "a radiation protection device" as required on page 2 of the Office Action.

With regard to Claim 34, there was an objection to the terms "carrying side" and "running side." In amended FIG. 1, in comparison with the original FIG. 1, merely contains the addition of the reference numbers 17 and 18. A conveyor belt simply has a carrying side 17 and a running side 18. These two sides can also be seen in the original figure. Now these reference numbers are shown. In the exemplary embodiment, the radiation source emits rays that cover the carrying side 17 of the conveyor belt 1.

At this location, the carrying side 17, which lies on top, can be seen, while the running side 18, which lies on the bottom cannot be seen. As soon as the conveyor belt 1 reversed direction going around the drum 2, a change in position takes place with regard to the carrying side 17 and the running side 18. The running side 18, with direct contact to the drum 2, is now lying on top and can be seen, while the carrying side now lies on the bottom and cannot be seen. That is simply how the structure operates.

With regard to Claim 14, the new FIG. 2 shows a "finite segment" 19 of a conveyor belt, whereby the length of the segment particularly amounts to 10 to 500 m. A start mark 6 is situated at the two delimitations 20, in each instance (FIG. 1). This can

be compared with a railway route, where two signals disposed at a distance from one another form a route segment.

On Page 5 of the Office Action, there was an objection to the clarity and lack of completeness of the subject matter according to claim 34.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 34 contains a complete recitation of the invention that can be implemented without undue experimentation by a person skilled in the art of conveyor belts. This can be done in combination with the drawings and the detailed description in the Specification, with the inclusion of advantageous measures.

According to the present invention, a radiation source emits radiation in the direction of the belt surface of a moving conveyor belt. In this connection, the radiation source can cover the carrying side or the running side.

FIG. 1 now shows the preferred arrangement in the direction of the running side, whereby then, of course, only the material-free state of a conveyor belt can be covered. In this regard, one skilled in the art can refer to the figure

description. Inclusion of the term "material-free state" in claim 34 is not required, in any case, since the belt surface, in general, is being addressed. Only in claim 4 is this additional term specifically recited.

The radiation source preferably covers the entire width of a conveyor belt as recited by claim 3.

The radiation source corresponds to a defect marking system that must, of course, be disposed in the influence region of the radiation source. In this connection, the arrangement according to claim 11 is preferred.

A process computer now evaluates the result of the irradiation test. In this connection, advantage is taken of a principle on which any radiation test is based: a test body has a radiation state X in an intact state. In a damaged state, it has a radiation state Y. The evaluation in this regard then yields testing results concerning the state of the test body, here: the conveyor belt.

On Page 3 of the Office Action, Claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the

written description requirement. Claim 34 recites, in part, "a defect marking system corresponding with the radiation source." This limitation is allegedly not understood.

On Page 4 of the Office Action, it is stated that further, it is not understood how an "irregularity or serious damage" is detected. Allegedly there is no teaching in the disclosure for how this is done.

On Page 4 of the Office Action, there was an objection to claim 14 because it recites "segment marking" and "start marking." Allegedly it is not understood how or why these are used.

On Page 5 of the Office Action, claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

On Page 5 of the Office Action, claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for allegedly omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. Allegedly, the omitted elements are:

means to detect "a result" of the irradiation test performed when the radiation source emits rays toward the belt surface.

On Page 5 of the Office Action, claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for allegedly omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. Allegedly the omitted structural cooperative relationships are: the relationship between the defect marking system and the other components of the assembly.

These rejections are respectfully traversed. All of the reasons set forth above provide a complete explanation of the present invention so as to enable anyone skilled in the art to make and to use the claimed invention in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, both the first and the second paragraphs.

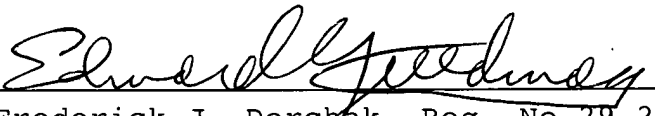
Based upon all of the above discussions of the present invention, it is firmly believed that the Drawings, the Specification, and all the claims, are now in complete compliance with all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112.

Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

A prompt notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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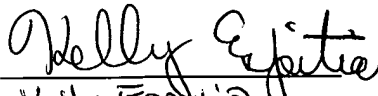
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Enclosures: 1. Petition for Three (3) Month Extension of Time
Large Entity
2. One "Replacement Sheet" of Drawings

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Date of Deposit: April 7, 2010.

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